



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108 -4619

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LAUREN A. SMITH, MD, MPH  
INTERIM COMMISSIONER

February 7, 2013

Dear Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program Director:

The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program is requesting a copy of your newborn hearing screening protocol, which is required to be sent to the Department of Public Health in accordance with Chapter 243 of the Acts of 1998, Hospital Licensure Regulations 105 CMR 130.000 and 105 CMR 142.000, and the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program Guidelines. Please find enclosed an updated copy of the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Guidelines to assist you in writing your protocol. We also included a brief summary from your previous protocol submission. The Guidelines were updated in collaboration with the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee and using national standards and guidelines. A copy of your protocol may be submitted to the address above and to the attention of Sarah Stone by May 6, 2013.

Massachusetts has received national recognition for having a comprehensive system to identify hearing loss in infants and young children. Early identification of hearing loss combined with timely services through the Massachusetts Early Intervention Program provides families with significantly greater opportunities for communication and language growth for their infants and young children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Your efforts and the dedication of the staff involved at your facility has led to the success of this initiative in Massachusetts. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance to you regarding the protocol requested. You may contact me at 617-624-5959 or Sarah Stone, Newborn Hearing Screening Senior Project Coordinator at 617-624-5912 or by e-mail at [janet.farrell@state.ma.us](mailto:janet.farrell@state.ma.us) or [sarah.stone@state.ma.us](mailto:sarah.stone@state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Janet M. Farrell  
Program Director  
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program